

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01080 131811Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----127269 131814Z /43

O R 131712Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 767
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1080

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, PBOR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJ: SIILASVUO APPEAL FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL BY END OF APRIL

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 4878 (B) LEWIS - DRAPER TELCON

SUMMARY: SIILASVUO WILL SEND MESSAGE TO WEIZMAN STATING THAT,
AFTER HAVING CONFERRED WITH UNIFIL COMMANDER ERSKINE, WHEN
IMMINENT DEPLOYMENT OF NEPALESE COMPLETED, HE HOPES GOI WILL
ANNOUNCE A SIGNIFICANT WITHDRAWAL. MOREOVER, WHEN
SENEGALESE ARE DEPLOYED, HE HOPES GOI WILL COMPLETE WITH-
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DRAWAL BY APRIL 30. (THIS MESSAGE CAN BE REINFORCED BY
WALDHEIM PERSONALLY IN JERUSALEM ON APRIL 17-18.) SIILASVUO
REQUESTS WE HELP ENSURE SENEGALESE ARE HERE BY APRIL 22ND.
HE ALSO HOPES WE WILL ENCOURAGE BOUTROS TO PERMIT KHOURY
TO MEET WITH ISRAELIS IN NAQOURA UNDER
UN AUSPICES. END SUMMARY

1. AT AMBASSADOR LEWIS' SUGGESTION, SIILASVUO CAME TO MY RESIDENCE LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 13 JUST AFTER HIS RETURN FROM NAQOURA WHERE HE HAD MET WITH GENERALS ERSKINE AND CUQ. CONSIDERING UNIFIL'S MANY PROBLEMS, HE THOUGHT SITUATION ON THE GROUND WAS IN FAIRLY REASONABLE SHAPE.

2. AMBASSADOR LEWIS THEN DESCRIBED POLITICAL PROBLEMS BUILDING UP IN NEW YORK AND STRENUOUS EFFORTS HE WAS MAKING TO GET ISRAELIS TO ANNOUNCE THEIR INTENTION TO WITHDRAW COMPLETELY BEFORE THE END OF APRIL. HOWEVER, ISRAELIS WERE HIDING BEHIND UN AND STATING THEIR PRESENT PLANS (WHICH DEPEND ON FULL DEPLOYMENT OF UNIFIL AND INTRODUCTION OF LAF FORCES INTO THE AREA) MET WITH SIILASVUO'S APPROVAL.

3. SIILASVUO DISPLAYED EXASPERATION. HE HAD TO BE LOYAL TO SC RES 425 WHICH, OF COURSE, DID NOT LINK WITHDRAWAL TO DEPLOYMENT, AND TO SYG'S STATEMENT ISRAELI PLANS ARE INADEQUATE. AT SAME TIME, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND AT PRESENT HE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH FORCES TO ENCIRCLE TYRE AND DEPLOY ALL ALONG THE LITANI AND ISRAELIS KENOW THIS AS WELL AS HE. (AT THIS POINT, AMBASSADOR LEWIS WAS SUMMONED TO PHONE CALL FROM DEPARTMENT.).

4. IN ENSURING CONVERSATION, NEWLIN STRESSED WE SEEMED TO BE GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES. SIILASVUO THEN SAID HE WOULD SEND MESSAGE TO WEIZMAN DESCRIBED IN SUMMARY ABOVE. WHEN AMBASSADOR
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LEWIS REJOINED CONVERSATION, HE SAID HE THOUGH SUCH A MESSAGE WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. SIILASVUO HAS HAD NO FIRM WORD FROM NEW YORK ON ARRIVAL OF SENEGALESE. HE ASKED US TO DO OURBEST IN WASHINGTON, NEW YORK AND DAKAR TO ENSURE THEIR ARRIVAL BY APRIL 22.

6. HE ALSO REQUESTED WE ASK AMBASSADOR PARKER TO APPROACH BOUTROS TO PERMIT KHOURY MAKE A TRIP TO NAQOURA FOR A MEETING WITH SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE AT WHICH AN ISRAELI GENERAL WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT (PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD BE EITAN GIVEN GUR'S COMING DEPARTURE FROM THE SERVICE).

7. COMMENT: RE LEWIS - DRAPER TELCON, AMBASSADOR LEWIS BELIEVES ABOVE MESSAGE IS AS MUCH AS WE CAN REASONABLY ASK SIILASVUO TO TRY TO GET FROM THE ISRAELIS. IN FACT, TIMING IS GOOD SINCE WALDHEIM WILL BE ABLE TO REINFORCE SIILASVUO'S MESSAGE IN PERSON AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK. SUCH A COMMITMENT, IF OBTAINED, SHOULD MAKE SC MEETING AND SPECIAL GA ON FINANCING CONSIDERABLE EASIER EXERCISE.

8. TEHRAN'S 3537 ARRIVED BEFORE END OF MEETING AND GIST WAS

PASSED TO SIILASVUO FOR HIS BACKGROUND. HE WAS DELIGHTED.
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Message Attributes

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